

**PROGRAM AND METHOD FOR PREVENTING OVERLOAD  
IN A PACKET TELEPHONY GATEWAY**

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**ABSTRACT**

A program and a method for a gateway are provided to deny incoming calls to prevent overload. The program of the present invention provides a maximum CPU utilization threshold CPUT, which is set by the user. When a new incoming call is presented to the 10 packet telephony gateway, the program checks a present CPU utilization CPUP. If the present CPU utilization CPUP is greater than the threshold, the call is refused. This ensures that sound quality of the calls currently being handled is maintained, and that existing calls are never dropped.

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